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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,964	09/12/2003	Eldon L. Decker	1886A1	8568
7590	12/28/2004			
			EXAMINER	
			AHMED, SHEEBA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1773	

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/661,964	DECKER ET AL.	
	Examiner Sheeba Ahmed	Art Unit 1773	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,6-8,11,13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 3-5,9,10 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Amendments to claims 1 and 12 have been entered in the above-identified application. Claims 1-14 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 13, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hayes et al. (US 4,472,479).

Hayes et al. disclose fluorescent printing ribbons, which have a reflective pigment therein (Column 1, lines 11-15). To prepare the ribbon, layer of wax or other suitable medium and fluorescent material is deposited on the ribbon base, which may be a thin film of plastic, and a reflective barrier material is added to this layer or deposited in a second layer of wax upon the first layer. The barrier pigments used are pigments of finely divided metals or materials with metallic colors which are reflective and do not shift the wavelength of the fluorescent light (Column 2, lines 1-4). The pigments are finely divided pigments of reflective material which do not shift the wavelength of fluorescent light and examples include mica platelets coated with titanium oxide. The fluorescent material is a mixture of fluorescent dyes suspended in a polyester resin

(Column 3, lines 40-55). With regards to the limitations of claims 6 and 7, the Examiner takes the position that the phrase "are produced by milling organic pigments with milling media having a particle size less than about 0.3", simply recites a process limitation and the resulting product is identical to one disclosed by Hayes et al. Furthermore, the Examiner takes the position that the ribbon taught by Hayes et al. inherently meets the limitation that said coating composition exhibits a first appearance on face dominated by absorbance of light by said colorants and a second appearance on flop dominated by fluorescence of the colorants given that the structure of the ribbon and the colorants and reflective pigments taught by Hayes et al. and the structure of the instantly claimed invention and the colorants and reflective pigments therein is identical. All limitations of claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 13, and 14 are disclosed in the above reference.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on October 5, 2004 regarding the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 13, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hayes et al. (US 4,472,479) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants traverse the above rejection and submit that the structure taught by Hayes et al. does not meet the limitation that said coating composition exhibits a first appearance on face dominated by absorbance of light by said colorants and a second appearance on flop dominated by fluorescence of the colorants. However, the Examiner has taken the position that such a limitation is met by the structure taught by Hayes et al. given that the structure of the ribbon and the colorants and reflective pigments taught by Hayes et

al. and the structure of the instantly claimed invention and the colorants and reflective pigments therein is identical.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 3-5, 9, 10, and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sheeba Ahmed whose telephone number is (571)272-1504. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Jones can be reached on (571)272-1535. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1773

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sheeba Ahmed
Art Unit 1773
December 23, 2004